AP WIREPHOTO

pit-sitter Mark Martin climbs into his car before start of Goody's 500.

Saugus refugee takes OSS Pro Stock main

By JAMES CURRAN
Special to The Sun

SAN BERNARDINO — This was hardly a victory dedicated to the memory of Rick Crow's former track. More like a sign of acceptance from the new 'hood.

Rick Crow of Simi Valley became the first driver from closed-down Saugus Speedway to win a main event at Orange Show Speedway, taking the 30-lap Pro Stock main on Saturday.

Crow led wire-to-wire in his first OSS race to take the victory over Curtis Brown of Hacienda Heights. Crow's car still gave its all to win. The engine backfired and the radiator blew when he accepted the checkered flag from the track referee.

"It's a win but in the long run, I don't mean anything to these guys," Crow said. "They're in this for the points standings and this being my first time here . . . they can afford having me win."

Saugus closed abruptly in mid-July due to inadequate grandstands. Crow said he won't become a regular at OSS, but would like to race here again.

"There's a lot of young drivers here," he said. "Good young drivers that can do things. The cars were even faster than mine."

Redlands' Tim Clyde was third and Mark McGuire and Kevin James, both of Yucaipa, finished fourth and fifth.

In the Legends main, Art Neville of Acton won despite starting in ninth position.

Only 47 drivers competed Saturday. Usually, the Legends cars total that number alone.

Dave Doll and Arlan DeJong of Long Beach outlasted seven other competitors to win the trains race.

Steve Dyer of Long Beach didn't receive much of a challenge for two-thirds of the Legends main, leading by as many as 10 car-lengths. Neville catapulted into contention when Frank Schneider of Riverside and Steve Smith of Escondido, locked in a battle for third place for 20 laps, finally took each other out.

Rod Anderson surrendered second place to Neville in the same lap. Dyer lost the lead to Neville in Turn 3 of Lap 21, but held on for a second-place finish.